

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10129



Introduced by **Rep. Deogracias Victor "DV" B. Savellano**

AN ACT
DEVELOPING THE INABEL (ABEL) INDUSTRY IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF BANTAY, CAOAYAN, STO. DOMINGO, STA. MARIA, SANTIAGO, SAN EMILIO, TAGUDIN AND CITY OF VIGAN IN THE PROVINCE OF ILOCOS SUR, CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE AN INABEL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER, ESTABLISHING AN INABEL INDUSTRY SUBSIDY FUND, DESIGNATING THESE PLACES AS INABEL CENTER OF THE PHILIPPINES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to develop the inabel (abel) industry in the Municipalities of Bantay, Caoayan, Sto. Domingo, Sta. Maria, Santiago, San Emilio, Tagudin and City of Vigan, creating for the purpose an Inabel Research and Development Center, establishing an Inabel Industry Subsidy Fund, designating these places as Inabel Center of the Philippines

To many Filipinos, Philippine-made or locally produced indigenous fabrics are so limited in volume. It is unworthy of being truly labelled as an industry. But to the more knowledgeable ones, Philippine fabrics are at par with the world's best, the Piña cloth even meriting a recognition as fit for the royalty.

The Inabel or Abel industry of Ilocos Sur has been in existence for many decades with the fabric landing as elegant wardrobe pieces for many Filipinos who wore them on special and official occasions.

The fabric is distinctive for its intricate designs and patterns. Producing

extensively, however, requires increasing the Loomis and the number of weavers who can sustain the traditional craft. This will entail recognizing the present weavers for their dedication to perpetuate this local industry. Thus, this bill.

This proposed bill and measure is an investment for the future. Our gesture of giving hope to the traditional weavers provide utmost importance to history and culture, bringing it closer to them and to the future generations.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this measure is earnestly requested.



DEOGRACIAS VICTOR "DV" B. SAVELLANO

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Be it enacted by the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SEC. 1. Short Title. This bill shall be known as "Inabel Industry Development Act of 2021."

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. It is the policy of the State to instill nationalism among the citizenry. In pursuit thereof, the State shall promote the preferential use of locally manufactured goods which utilize local resources and generate wide employment. It shall adopt measures that will make local industries competitive.

It is likewise the policy of State to promote and accelerate the development and growth of the Province of Ilocos Sur according to sound policies that seek to uplift the economic, and social conditions of the people, as well as preserve local culture, heritage and traditions.

SEC. 3. Creation of Inabel Research and Development Center. Within one (1) year from the approval of this Act, the Inabel Research and Development Center shall be established at Don Mariano Marcos State University.

SEC. 4. Functions of the Inabel Research and Development Center. – The Inabel Research and Development Center shall exercise the following powers and functions:

- a) Undertake and conduct researches and technical studies on the development, production, management, and marketing of *inabel* or abel products;
- b) Publish research studies, papers, articles, and other works or writings relating to inabel or abel-weaving with the end goal of benefitting farmers, weavers, traders, and other stakeholders;
- c) Train faculty members and other research personnel who will undertake research studies on inabel or abel-weaving traditions of the area in order to document and preserve them, and to create the body of knowledge necessary in the formulation of education and training programs designed to encourage the development of a creative mass of local artisans, and the pursuit of entrepreneurial activities that showcase locally-woven products;
- d) Formulate a Inabel or abel-weaving Development Roadmap;
- e) Develop innovations in abel propagation and production and development as well as provide for the transfer and improvement of appropriate technologies and techniques;
- f) Provide technical support and assistance for sustainable abel propagation production and other development activities to promote and provide adequate training to farmers and individuals and other stakeholders engaged in abel propagation, production, processing, and distribution in the Province of Samar;
- g) Develop and provide marketing and intellectual property protection, education and training programs for abel farmers and product makers and entrepreneurs;
- h) Establish standards in grading, sampling and inspection, tests and analysis, specifications, packaging, preservation, conservation and transportation of abel products;
- i) Coordinate with the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and other concerned government agencies for the participation of abel

farmers, weavers, traders and exporters in local and international conferences, trade fairs, expositions and exhibits;

j) Coordinate with the Department of Education (DepEd) and other concerned government agencies in developing and including an abel-weaving course in the curriculum of select senior high schools in the Province of Ilocos Sur;

k) Coordinate with the local government units as well as concerned government agencies and offices to consolidate all policies, programs and projects relating to abel-weaving research and development; and

Perform such other functions and duties necessary or incidental to the promotion and development of the abel-weaving Industry and in the accomplishment of the objectives of this Act.

SEC. 5. *Abel Subsidy Fund.* – An Abel-weaving Subsidy Fund shall be established to financially support and provide capital development to abel production, weaving, trading, skills training and other related activities.

SEC. 6. *Abel Center of the Philippines.* – To help promote the abovementioned public policy and further develop the local abel-weaving industry, the Municipalities of **BANTAY, CAOYAN, STO. DOMINGO, STA. MARIA, SANTIAGO, SAN EMILIO, TAGUDIN AND CITY OF VIGAN IN THE PROVINCE OF ILOCOS SUR**, are hereby declared as the *Abel Center of the Philippines*.

SEC. 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within sixty (60) days from effectivity of this Act, the Department of Agriculture and Department of Environment and Natural Resources shall, in collaboration with the Department of Trade and Industry, and Department of Science and Technology, formulate and prescribe the necessary implementing rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 8. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary for the immediate implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 9. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 10. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential decrees or issuances, executive orders, letters of instruction, administrative orders, rules or regulation inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed.

SEC. 11. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,